

December 14, 2022

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-77-22

The purpose of this All County Information Notice is to notify All County Welfare Directors and Tribal Governments in California of the Program Update that Bringing Families Home (BFH) grantees are required to provide in compliance with the [All County Welfare Directors Letter \(ACWDL\) dated February 11, 2022](#).



KIM JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



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GOVERNOR

December 14, 2022

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. I-77-22

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENTS
ALL TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS IN CALIFORNIA

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF PROGRAM UPDATE REQUIREMENT FOR BRINGING
FAMILIES HOME PROGRAM IN FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2021-22**

REFERENCE: [ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS LETTER \(ACWDL\)
DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2022](#); [COUNTY FISCAL LETTER \(CFL\)
21/22-99](#)

The purpose of this All County Information Notice (ACIN) is to inform participating County Welfare Departments (CWD) and Tribal Governments in California (Tribes) of the requirement to complete a Bringing Families Home (BFH) Program Update as reflected in [All County Welfare Director's Letter \(ACWDL\) dated February 11, 2022](#). As a condition of receiving FY 2021-22 funding, displayed in [County Fiscal Letter \(CFL\) 21/22-99](#), grantees are required to provide regular Program Updates to demonstrate use of BFH program funds consistent with program guidance and requirements.

The Program Update survey template linked below is designed to capture current program status, updates, and areas for additional technical assistance, with the primary purpose of understanding progress toward statewide program implementation. If grantees identify gaps or areas of concern in program implementation within this program update, CDSS will provide technical assistance to support grantees. In consultation with the County Welfare Directors Association, CDSS will continue to update the template for future updates and phases of programming.

Background

BFH provides housing supports to families receiving child welfare services who are experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness, in order to reunify families and prevent foster care placement. [The Budget Act of 2021 \(SB 129\)](#) appropriated an additional \$92.5 million in one-time funding for BFH, available for expenditure from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. Per BFH [CFL 21/22-99](#), FY 2021-22 funds were allocated to 51 counties and one Tribe.

Current and prospective grantees should review the [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#) for a complete overview of BFH program eligibility, definitions, services, rules, and requirements.

Schedule and Instructions for Program Updates

The [ACWDL dated February 11, 2022](#) establishes a Program Update schedule. Participating grantees shall submit the Program Update using this state provided [BFH Program Update survey template](#). One survey per grantee will be accepted. CDSS may request more frequent updates if determined necessary. **The survey is password-protected and CDSS will share the password with BFH-designated program contacts via email.** If your BFH program has not received an email from CDSS with the survey link and survey password by December 13, 2022, please email Housing@dss.gov.

This FY 2021-22 BFH Program Update is **due no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 20, 2023**. Responses should encompass current program progress and/or plans, and, where specified in the survey instructions, responses should specifically represent plans for newly awarded funds in FY 2021-22. For example, budget information and targets will only correspond to the total amount of noncompetitive funding awarded in FY 2021-22 available for use from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024, and displayed in [CFL 21/22-99](#). All grantees should complete each required section of the survey. "Optional" sections of the survey are encouraged, but not required.

A copy of the survey will be delivered electronically in a forthcoming email announcement sent to all BFH grantees. All final Program Update responses must be submitted via the survey linked above.

CDSS will host a webinar to discuss the Program Update, answer frequently asked questions, and provide additional guidance, as needed.

Contacts

If you have any questions or need additional guidance regarding the information in this letter, please contact the Housing and Homelessness Division at (916) 651-5155 or at Housing@dss.gov.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

JULIE MCQUITTY, Branch Manager
Program Policy and Quality Assurance Branch
Housing and Homelessness Division